

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 223845

16

ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13

IGA-02 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-07 MC-02 ACDA-07

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PM/SAS:DHESTER

AFR/RA:PSTRUHARIK (SUBS)

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R 100025Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR, MASS, UV, US

SUBJECT:AMBASSADOR YAGUIBOU REQUESTS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 211107

1. AT HIS REQUEST, AMBASSADOR YAGUIBOU, ALONG WITH
COUNSELOR KOUELA AND A MR. DIASSO FROM UNNAMED GOUV
MINISTRY (PRESUMABLY DEFENSE), CALLED ON COUNTRY OFFICER,
AUGUST 30. PURPOSE OF CALL WAS TO REQUEST THAT USG
FURNISH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF PLANNED
GOUV ACQUISITION OF LOCKHEED L-100-20, COMMERCIAL TRANS-
PORT. YAGUIBOU SAID THAT HE AND DIASSO DECIDED ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM OFFERED BY LOCKHEED WAS INSUFFICIENT FOR VOLTAN
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PAGE 02 STATE 223845

NEEDS, SO THEY DECIDED TO MAKE APPEAL TO USG.

2. PROGRAM REQUESTED BY YAGUIBOU WOULD INCLUDE: TWO RADIO TECHNICIANS, THREE AIRCRAFT INSTRUMENT TECHNICIANS, AND FOUR MECHANICS. DIASSO NOTED THAT INSTRUMENTS ON OTHER PLANES OWNED BY GOUV, AS WELL AS AIRPORT RADIO FACILITIES, WERE ALL OF US MANUFACTURE. THEREFORE, US EXPERTISE NEEDED TO TRAIN VOLTAN PERSONNEL IN THE PROPER MAINTENANCE OF THESE DELICATE PIECES OF EQUIPMENT.

3. LOCKHEED HAD OFFERED THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES: EITHER ONE TRAINER ON BOARD IN UPPER VOLTA FOR 24 MONTHS FOLLOWING DELIVERY OF PLANE, OR TWO TECHNICIANS FOR 12 MONTHS EACH. YAGUIBOU SAID THAT NOT ONLY WAS THIS PROPOSAL INADEQUATE FOR VOLTAN NEEDS, BUT GOUV WOULD BE OBLIGED TO PAY COSTS OF TRAINING. THEREFORE, IT HAD BEEN DECIDED TO APPROACH USG WITH REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

4. YAGUIBOU WAS CAREFUL TO MAKE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THIS REQUEST AND EARLIER REQUEST (REFTEL) FOR USG APPROVAL OF EXPORT PERMITS FOR ARMS/UNIFORMS PURCHASES. ARMS PURCHASES DID NOT INVOLVE FINANCIAL COMMITMENT BY USG, WHEREAS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WOULD. BUT BOTH WERE DEPENDENT ON USG POLICY VIS-A-VIS UPPER VOLTA. YAGUIBOU CLAIMED THAT USG HAD MADE TWO "MORAL COMMITMENTS" TO HELP GOUV. FIRST WAS STATEMENT BY FORMER ASSTSECY DAVIS TO YAGUIBOU AT UN THAT USG WILL GIVE PRIORITY CONSIDERATION TO AID REQUESTS FROM THOSE COUNTRIES WHO HAVE SUPPORTED U.S. POSITIONS (NOTE: YAGUIBOU WAS ASSUMING WE VIEW GOUV'S RECENT MULTILATERAL PERFORMANCE AS SUPPORTIVE OF OUR POSITIONS). SECONDLY, YAGUIBOU HAD BEEN INFORMED IN EARLY 1975 (AT TIME OF IMPOSITION OF ARMS EMBARGO) THAT IF GOUV MADE ITS REQUEST SIX MONTHS EARLIER OR LATER, IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN APPROVED. NOW, SAID YAGUIBOU, THE TIMING APPEARS RIGHT FOR SUCH A REQUEST.

5. INTER ALIA, YAGUIBOU MENTIONED THAT GOUV IS PLANNING TO SEND NEW ENVOY TO NEW YORK SOLELY FOR UN AFFAIRS; YAGUIBOU INDICATED THAT HE WOULD STAY IN WASHINGTON.

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PAGE 03 STATE 223845

6. COMMENT: PROSPECTS ARE VIRUTALLY HOPELESS FOR FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF YAGUIBOU'S REQUEST FOR ON-SITE AMERICAN TECHNICAL TRAINERS IN UPPER VOLTA. NOTWITHSTANDING THE ARMS EMBARGO (WHICH IS DUE TO BE RE-EXAMINED IN OPTIONS PAPER BEING PREPARED FOR SECRETARY), BUDGET AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS PRECLUDE PURSUING THIS SORT OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR UPPER VOLTA.

7. IF ASKED BY GOUV RE STATUS OF THIS REQUEST, YOU SHOULD
REPLY ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE
REQUIRES THAT AID PROGRAMS BE ORIENTED TOWARDS HELPING
POOREST SEGMENTS OF POPULATION PRIMARILY IN AREAS OF
AGRICULTURE, HEALTH, AND HUMAN RESOURCES. REQUEST FOR
ON-SITE AIRCRAFT TECHNICIANS DOES NOT FALL WITHIN THESE
GUIDELINES. KISSINGER

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